

THE LOOK MAN REPORT 2011

Week Two – Bombs Away!

"I wish I was 50 years younger and I'd kick your ass." – HBO boxing analyst Larry Merchant to Floyd Mayweather after the Mayweather-Ortiz fight

Larry Merchant dropped some serious smack after Floyd (Money) Mayweather's bizarre knockout of Victor Ortiz last Saturday. Money May issued a profanity laced tirade in the post-fight interview when Merchant asked why he hit a defenseless opponent. Merchant's response to the scatological reference was epic, but he could only beat Money May if his name was Manny Pacquiao.

The defenseless opponent theme extended to the NFL as well, with New England pounding the road challenged Bolts. The supposed Game of the Week devolved into an MMA contest, with Tom (Zoolander) Brady dropping over 400 passing yards on San Diego.

Week Two also featured some surprises, including the Flaming Thumbtacks throttling Baltimore, and Washington going to 2-0 behind (T-)Rex Grossman. The air assault on the record books continued, with passers posting huge numbers.

The big numbers are surprising, but not as surprising as rookies like Cam (Gravity) Newton and Andy Dalton blowing up. Dalton connected with rookie AJ Green ten times and over 3 bills passing. Newton threw for 432, ten more than the opener. Both passers lost, but this the first time two rookies have put up these kinds of numbers in their openers.



"Newton is a comer. I like his reach and he protects himself at all times."

LAGNIAPPE

Vertical stripes?

The Bengos went all Oz this week, with WR Jerome (D'oh!) Simpson having a kilo of the chronic delivered to his house via express mail. The feds were waiting with a warrant that netted an additional six pounds of laughing tobacco inside. The weed was allegedly California medical-grade sticky.

California authorities had been tracking the package, which was addressed to "Jerome Simpson, Cincinnati Bengals." They notified the Cincinnati airport authorities, which surveilled Simpson's home. Simpson and his roomie, offensive lineman Anthony Collins, were detained following the warrant service and discovery of tools for hippie lettuce distribution.

Simpson put up big numbers last week in Denver, and apparently has been smoking big numbers at his home.

Simpson missed practice on Thursday, but Collins had full participation. No charges have been filed, but the police blotter continues to fill up with Nati players running afoul of the law.

RB Cedric (The Butler) Benson received notification of a three game NFL suspension for his assault conviction. The Butler is appealing the suspension, and is likely to play against the Niners before missing weeks four through six.

Paging Dr. Dalton, Dr. Andrew Dalton...

The Bengals lost WR Jordan Shipley to a knee courtesy of a medicine ball from Andy Dalton. Apparently Dalton spent some time at TCU Medical School of Medicine, because he certainly put Shipley in the hospital.

Ironically, Shipley was the victim of a concussion in his rookie season, courtesy of Browns S TJ Ward. Ward was fined fifteen large for a blow to the helmet, but Shipley missed no games. On the play last week in Denver, the DB went low instead, and now Shipley is done for the year and perhaps his career. There's that Law of Unintended Consequences again.

QB Injuries

Mike Vick suffered a concussion from friendly fire after getting clocked by his own right tackle. The Look Man wonders why a \$100 million QB would play without a mouth guard. The guard prevents the back teeth from clacking together, reducing concussions. Granted, the equipment makes it difficult to communicate, but the protection against concussion more than offsets the inconvenience.

Meanwhile, the doctors let Tony Romo return to the field after suffering a broken rib in the Niners game. Romo won the game with some filthy throws, but it was later revealed that Romo has a punctured lung.

Both players are likely to play this weekend, and the NFL claims of player safety are up for grabs. The accelerated passing numbers have come with a price: record number of sacks and QB hits. Just last week, NFL.com posted a photo of KC RB Jamal Charles tearing up his knee, with the caption, "Fantasy team ruined? Start over on NFL.com." Nice hypocrisy.

The People vs. Larry Flynt

This just in from Tailpipe Cliff(Hanger) Hall: According to TMZ, Larry Flynt of Hustler magazine is offering one meellion dollars to anyone who can corroborate a sexual encounter with a leading GOP presidential candidate. The ad will reportedly read "Have you had a gay or straight sexual encounter with Governor Rick Perry?"



"Where I come from, they call that ..."

THE LOOK AHEAD

Miami at Cleveland (-2.5)

The Browns escaped with a ball control win in Indy, and now face Chad Henne (Pasta) at home. Colt (My Little Pony) McCoy was outplayed by Andy Dalton last week, and has yet to post a 300 yard passing performance in 2011.

Miami head coach Tony Sparano could be the first coach to get whacked in 2011. They are the best 0-2 team out there, and they are desperate. Look for them to give the Browns fits, especially with the lack of zebra love. Fish.

New England at Buffalo (+9)

Tom (Zoolander) Brady and the Chowds have beaten the Bills fifteen straight. The Chowds head to Crapchester to face an up and coming Ryan (Veritas) Fitzgerald led Bisons team. The Chowds defense has been giving up yards in bunches, and this isn't the same Bills team.

Look for the Ivy League QB to match wits with Belicheat. The Bisons have a bunch of no-name, late round picks who have jelled. Now they play a meaningful game at the beginning of a killer schedule stretch. They are not there yet, but look for them to make a difference in the AFC Least. Bills cover.

Green Bay at Chicago (+3.5)

Jay (the Knife) Cutler(y) has been brutalized in 2011, and he is on pace to be sacked an NFL record 88 times this year. Bears OC Mike (Megalomaniac) Martz has employed the seven step drop a ridiculous number times and his O-line would give Swiss cheese a bad name.

Green Bay has an excellent pass rush, QB Aaron Rodgers and the deepest receiving corps in the NFL. What they don't have is teammates in black and white jerseys like the Bears.

Martz will attempt to go ball control, but the Cheesehead run defense won't allow it. The Bears failed to draft a deep threat, and Cutler has the bruises to prove it. Megalo QBs have been sacked a record 40 plus times every season for the last five. Lovie (Howell III) Smith is headed for Gilligan's Island in January.

Pack wins a close one in which the zebras attempt to donate another game to the Bears. Pack.

Houston at New Orleans (-3.5)

This could be the Game of the Week, as Drew (Cool) Brees and Matt Schaub face off in the Big Easy. The Religious Icons just played a big, physical game against the Bears, and could be hurting.

Brees is quietly putting up great numbers against a murder's row schedule. The Icons faced the physical Packers and Bears already, and the Slim Shadies defense is helmed by ex-Pokes head coach Wade (Capt. Kangaroo) Phillips.

Houston gets a good test in this one, but head coach Gary Kubiak is overmatched against Sean (Secret Squirrel) Payton. Icons in a close one.



D-Coordinator Gregg Williams and Head Coach Sean Payton are keeping the game plan under wraps

Frisco at Cincinnati (-2.5)

Andy Dalton and his Gang impressed in Week Two, putting up 280 second half passing yards in the Mile High city. If not for head coach Marvin Lewis making key coaching errors, the Ugly & Black might be 2-0 instead of 1-1. Jerry wasted a much-needed timeout with 3:53 left in the third quarter, went for a two-point conversion early, and eschewed a 50-yard FG. Avoiding any one of these errors might have meant victory.

The Niners looked good for three quarters against the Pokes, and QB Alex Smith and Jim Harbaugh take the show on the road. The Bengos are a wholly owned subsidiary of the Niners, so look for another ignominious loss. You will have to, because the locals won't even see the blacked out contest.

This game also features the return of Justin (Dr. Zachary) Smith, LB Ahmad Brooks, and Madiou Williams to the team that drafted them. Smith goes back to the Jupiter II with the intent of molesting Will, Penny, and the Red BB Gun. Oh, the pain, the pain....

By the way, the Bengos are getting incredible zebra love this season, including some wacky calls in Denver, a city where NFL rules rarely apply. If the Nati gets these calls on the road in Cleveland and Denver, who knows what might happen in the Jungle on Sunday? Niners.



"You got any pop tarts, Jerome? I got the munchies."

Atlanta at Tampa Bay (-2.5)

Tampa QB Josh Freeman might be the most underrated QB in the NFL. The Corn King's running game is solid, and Freeman is clutch in the fourth quarter.

The Look Man likes Tampa Bay to ground and pound Philly, keeping Vick off the field and notching a solid win. The Dream Team season mutates into a Nightmare on Broad Street. Corn Kings cover and win.

Washington at Dallas (-6) - Monday Night Football

Tony Romo (the Place for Ribs) lived up to his name after a gutsy comeback from a rib injury and punctured lung. If you've ever had a rib injury, you know just how painful it is to breathe, let alone throw two TD passes. Well, one TD pass, and one game winning pass to Jesse Holley, who failed to score the walk off TD due to early celebration.

Genocide Victims DB Deangelo Hall talked a lot of smack this week, and is likely to get the zebras involved early and often. D-Hall threatened to target a plate of Romo ribs via the corner blitz. These two teams don't like each other, and Monday night will be a war.

Unfortunately, the Pokes are missing WR Austin (Powers) Miles and possibly Dez Bryant, allowing the Washington DBs to cover the balance of the receiving corps while laughing and shouting, "Oh, behaaaaave." The Pokes are too banged up to compete, and (T-) Rex Grossman gets a chance for a Tosh.0 web redemption. Genocide Vics cover in a division matchup.

EPILOGUE

Week Two saw QBs lighting it up and setting a weekly passing record of nearly 8,000 yards. The previous record lasted all of one week, and if two times makes a trend, this one is a dandy.

While the theory is that no-huddle is killing poorly conditioned defenders, the Look Man has a corollary: offensive coordinators installed limited playbooks in the strike shortened preseason. These scaled down playbooks are being executed with precision, allowing even rookie signal callers like Cam (Gravity) Newton and Andy (Red Raider BB Gun) Dalton to light it up in the air.

It usually takes four weeks for offenses to jell, so look for NFL defenses to follow suit. Once defenses get in shape, they will rise up and begin to stop offenses. The spate of major QB injuries will force teams to focus on pass protection and the running game. We've already seen Romo, Vick and Cutler get brutalized, and Big Ben narrowly escaped a season-ending knee injury in Week Two.

The NFL is interested in putting asses in seats, especially after the lockout. While defense wins championships, offense sells tickets.

Peace,

The Look Man